

**REMARKS**

Applicants respectfully request consideration of this preliminary amendment and allowance of claims 1-17 that are pending. Applicants have amended the specification to revise the cross-reference to related applications. In particular, specific reference to continuation-in-part status is provided where applicable and updated application status is provided. No new matter is added by the amendment to the specification.

In view of the foregoing, Applicants submit that the instant application is in good form for examination. Early and favorable action is earnestly solicited. In the event there are any fees due and owing in connection with this matter, please charge same to our Deposit Account No. 11-0223.

Dated: June 2, 2004

Respectfully submitted,

By 

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